

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

IO-13 OIC-02 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04

ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /135 W

-----212233Z 053831 /46

R 211823Z APR 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6728

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

A/MEMBASSY MANILA 511-512-513

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

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AMEMBASSYS MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, ETRD

SUBJECT: UNCTAD: UN SUGAR CONFERENCE, GENEVA, APRIL 18 - MAY 27.

REF; (A) GENEVA 2866, (B) GENEVA 2919

1. THE 1977 UN SUGAR CONFERENCE GOT OFF TO AN UNCHARACTER-
ISTICALLY FAST START WITH MOST ORGANIZATIONAL AND PRO-
CEDURAL MATTERS SETTLED QUICKLY. UNCTAD SECRETARY GENERAL
COREA OPENED CONFERENCE WITH BRIEF SPEECH NOTING NEW,
POSITIVE APPROACH OF MAJOR COUNTRIES TO INTERNATIONAL COM-
MODITY AGREEMENTS AND ADVISING DELEGATIONS NOT TO OVERLOOK
ROLE A COMMON FUND AS A FINANCING INSTRUMENT COULD PLAY
IN FRAMING A SUGAR AGREEMENT. MANY SPEAKERS REFERRED
APPROVINGLY TO PRESENCE US DELEGATION AS FULL PARTICIPANTS

IN CONFERENCE WITH EVIDENT INTENTION CONTRIBUTE TO AGREEMENT. AFTER SOME CONFUSION AMONG THE EXPORTING COUNTRIES, RENE MONTES OF GUATEMALA WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE. MICHAEL FLETCHER OF SWAZILAND WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE, AND ROBERT MCCONNELL OF THE USDEL WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE STATISTICS COMMITTEE. MUSGRAVE OF CANADA WILL SERVE AS SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMPORTING COUNTRIES AND WILL CHAIR THE IMPORTERS CAUCUS.

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-----212233Z 053868 /46

R 211823Z APR 77

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6729

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

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AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BERN

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2. OVER THREE DAYS OF PLENARY SESSIONS NUMEROUS DELEGATIONS MADE INTRODUCTORY STATEMENTS WHICH CONTAINED VERY LITTLE VARIATION IN SUBSTANCE FROM PREVIOUS POSITIONS. THE CUBAN STATEMENT OUTLINED THEIR POSITION ON THE FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) QUOTAS: DO NOT FAVOR FIXED QUOTAS FOR LONG (E.G., 5 YEAR) PERIODS, ANNUAL ESTABLISHMENT OR PERCENTAGE FORMULAS. RATHER, THEY WANT A BASIC EXPORT TONNAGE SET FOR TWO YEARS AND NEGOTIATION AT END OF 2 YEARS FOR REST OF PERIOD. (B) PRICES AND PRICE ADJUSTMENTS: INITIALLY A MINIMUM OF 15 CENTS A POUND AND MAXIMUM OF 25 CENTS FOLLOWED BY ANNUAL AUTOMATIC ADJUSTMENTS BASED ON U.N. MANUFACTURED GOODS PRICE INDEX AND/OR CHANGES IN US DOLLAR EXCHANGE RATE. (C) SPECIAL AGREEMENTS: MARKET QUOTA FOR FREE WORLD SALES SHOULD NOT BE AFFECTED BY EXPORT AGREEMENTS WITH SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, EXPORTS OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES SHOULD BE LIMITED TO BASIC EXPORT ENTITLEMENT. (D) PURCHASE AND SALE OBLIGATIONS: IMPORTERS WILL BE OBLIGATED TO BUY AT THE MINIMUM PRICE AND EXPORTERS, TO SELL AT THE MAXIMUM. AT THIS POINT ONLY PROCEDURAL ISSUE OUTSTANDING IS BRAZILIAN CHALLENGE TO EC DELEGATION'S PARTICIPATION AS AN EXPORTER, INSISTING THAT EC IS ACTUALLY NET IMPORTER. THIS CHALLENGE REMAINS UNRESOLVED AND WITH THE EC INVITED TO NEITHER CONSUMER NOR PRODUCER CAUCUS. FOR ITS OWN PART EC HAS NO NEGOTIATING MANDATE, ADOPTION OF A POSITION HAVING BEEN EFFECTIVELY BLOCKED SO FAR BY FRANCE AND BELGIUM. EC COMMISSION DOES NOT MEET AGAIN UNTIL MAY 5.

3. IN OPENING STATEMENT, US REP (KATZ) OUTLINED IN GENERAL TERMS US PROPOSAL FOR A PRICE STABILIZING SCHEME DEFENDED BY QUOTAS AND STOCKS, AND EXPRESSED THE DESIRE

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OF USG FOR A WORKABLE AGREEMENT. (SEE REFTTEL A FOR TEXT). US CONCEPTUAL APPROACH FOR PRICE MECHANISM WAS PUT FORWARD IN OUTLINE FORM IN ECONOMIC COMMITTEE ON APRIL 20. (SEE REFTTEL B FOR TEXT). INITIAL REACTIONS TO US PRESENTATION PRAISED INITIATIVE AS SIGNIFICANT STEP IN MOVING CONFERENCE AT AN EARLY STAGE TO SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS. SOME DELEGATIONS, HOWEVER,

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PARTICULARLY CUBA, AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN HAVE INDICATED PRIVATELY SIGNIFICANT SUBSTANTIVE DIFFERENCES WITH CONTENT OF US OUTLINE. AUSTRALIAN REP (DEPUTY MINISTER OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES, ANTHONY) COMPLAINED WITH SOME HEAT AT US-HOSTED PRIVATE DINNER THAT US PROPOSAL DISCRIMINATORY AGAINST AUSTRALIA AND ALLEGED THAT US HAD NOT CONSULTED WITH AUSTRALIA ON US THINKING. WE AGREED TO EXAMINE IN DETAIL IMPACT OF PROPOSAL ON AUSTRALIA BUT REJECTED HIS ALLEGATION ABOUT NON-CONSULTATION, NOTING CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON AND LONDON AND POINTING OUT US PROPOSAL BASED LARGELY ON IDEAS PUT FORWARD (WITHOUT COMMITMENT) BY AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRY. (SEPTEL ON CUBAN BILATERAL REPORTS THEIR REACTION.)

4. US DEL HAS BEEN HOLDING A SERIES OF BILATERALS
WITH MAJOR PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS INCLUDING PRINCIPALLY
BRAZIL, AUSTRALIA, ARGENTINA, CANADA, JAPAN, DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC AND CUBA. BRAZIL WAS NON-COMMITTAL ON US
PROPOSAL AND AFFIRMED PRIVATELY ITS HARD LINE ON THE EC.
AUSTRALIA, AS NOTED, OBJECTED STRONGLY TO THE STOCK
FEATURE. ARGENTINA WAS SKEPTICAL BUT NON-COMMITTAL.
JAPAN EXPRESSED STRONG RESERVATIONS ON IMPORTER CON-
TRIBUTIONS TO STABILIZATION FUND. DR WAS SUPPORTIVE
OF US APPROACH AND MENTIONED PARENTHETICALLY THEIR
CONCERN THAT US WOULD REDESIGNATE BRAZIL AS GSP BENEFICIARY.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 21-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA02965
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
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Executive Order: N/A
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From: GENEVA
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Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
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